Volume 133, Number 7

Tuesday, February 26, 2013

Saturday report of a gunman on campus a hoax

Tip said gunman was after Reif in retaliation for Swartz death, alerts to students delayed



MIT and Cambridge police responded to a report of a gunman with a long rifle and body armor at 77 Massachusetts Avenue at 7:30 a.m. Saturday. The tip said that the gunman was going after L. Rafael Reif in retaliation for Aaron Swartz's death. The report was later determined to be a hoax after police finished searching room-to-room in MIT's Main Group Buildings. Students were first notified of the situation over an hour after police began closing off the area.

By Joanna Kao CONTRIBUTING EDITOR

The Cambridge Police received a false report early Saturday morning of a male with a large firearm and wearing body armor" at 77 Massachusetts Avenue. The report was declared to be false around 2.5 hours later after MIT and Cambridge police searched each building room-to-room. Students were not notified of the situation until after an hour after the initial tip.

The report came in as an ongoing, electronic, running message at 7:28 a.m. Two minutes later, Cambridge and MIT officers responded to 77 Mass. Avenue and began searching and clearing administrative offices, classrooms, and bathrooms in MIT's Main Group (central buildings). About 30 officers responded, according to John Boyle, a Cambridge police spokesperson. A special response team was notified and was on standby, but was not needed. The Boston Police department offered

resources but was also not needed. State police shut down Massachusetts Avenue between Vassar Street and Memorial Drive at 7:35 a.m. MIT and Cambridge police set up a perimeter around MIT's main buildings, although they ran into students and MIT staff several times during the search. A graduate student commented on MIT News's Facebook page asking if he should leave if he was in the Main Group Building, but no one from MIT responded.

Police radio traffic suggested that the gunman had a long rifle and body armor, was hiding in the bathroom and that he was going after MIT President L. Rafael Reif and school staff in retaliation for the death of Aaron Swartz. It is unclear how long the police were connected to the tipster, but the tipster was disconnected before 7:49 a.m.

The report came in as a running message received via an Internet relay or "electronic messaging sys-

Hoax, Page 8

New Media Lab Fellows

Joichi Ito names nine people for the new and eclectic Director's Fellows program

By Kath Xu

STAFF REPORTER

What does the co-creator of Lost and director of the next Star Wars film have to do with an international chess grandmaster? A successful fashion designer? The author of a New York Times bestseller? All are members of the MIT Media Lab's first group of Director's Fellows, announced last month in a Media Lab blog post.

Joichi Ito, Director of the Media Lab, created the program to foster innovation and expand the outreach of the Media Lab's network. During their year-long relationship with the Lab, the Fellows are expected to interact with MIT students and faculty by collaborating on projects or giving talks

According to the Director's Fellows

website, the list of Fellows includes Emmy Award-winning director J.J. Abrams, chess grandmaster Maurice Ashley, fashion designer Christopher Bevans, Nairobi-based technologists and activists David Kobia and Juliana Rotich, open education activist Philipp Schmidt, Detroit community activist Shaka Senghor, maker movement advocate Jeff Sturges, and author and comedian Baratunde Thurston.

The Director's Fellows Program is kind of an initial shot at my going out and trying to find an interesting group of people who would inspire and challenge our students and faculty to think in different ways, who are also doing really interesting things in their local communities as well as their respective

Fellows, Page 6

Cambridge releases Hubway usage statistics

The City of Cambridge released ridership statistics on the Hubway bikeshare program last week. Since its launch in late July 2012, Hubway has proven successful at attracting daily bike riders, especially in the MIT vicinity.

The MIT station, at Massachusetts Avenue and Amherst Street, saw the most ridership among all Hubway stops, averaging 6.3 rides per bike per day during its 118 days in service.

According to data from the City of Cambridge, the next most popular stop was Harvard Square, at Mass. Ave. and Dunster, averaging 5.2 rides per bike per day during its 122 days in service. Other MIT stations are located at the Kendall T stop and next to the Stata Center, which have also proved popular among bike riders, averaging 2.1 and 4.1 rides per bike per day, respectively.

The success of Hubway at MIT is not unexpected. According to the City of Cambridge, MIT has taken an active part in promoting the Hubway program around campus with posters about "sustainable transportation options."

In previous articles, *The Tech* reported that Hubway stations at MIT are so busy that they often fill up quickly during peak hours. In addition, it was reported that MIT sold 628 Hubway memberships to the local community as of November.

Hubway still faces several business challenges. According to the City of Cambridge, Hubway revenues to date have not covered the high upfront costs of installing stations, although Cambridge expects this problem to be resolved as the system continues to be used.

Hubway is still trying to fill in gaps in its network. Yesterday, in a letter to the Cambridge City Council, City Manager Robert Healy requested that \$369,310 be appropriated to create three new stations.

Currently, expansion is being considered in Kendall Square, North Mass. Ave., and the Alewife station area. Of the stated \$369,310, MIT is providing \$4,044. This amount is less than the contributions of Harvard, Google, and the Cambridgeside Galleria, all of which exceed \$60,000 each. Healy states that in 2013, Cambridge will seek to further increase ridership and solicit more donations.

The Hubway stations are expected to reopen from their winter closure in March.

—Anthony Yu

IN SHORT

President L. Rafael Reif and former Intel CEO Craig Barrett published a column in the Financial *Times* **yesterday** urging the federal government to spare scientific research dollars from the impending sequestration. "To slash America's R&D capability in the name of fiscal responsibility would be akin to seeking greater efficiency for an aircraft by jettisoning the engines," they wrote.

On Monday, the Cambridge City Council passed a rezoning petition from Forest City Enterprises that will allow for new Millenium Pharmaceuticals offices and labs in a 95-foot building on MIT property at 300 Massachusetts Ave., abutting Random Hall. The vote followed comments from local residents, who expressed a range of opinions on the

Send news information and tips to news@tech.mit.edu.

Hubway at MIT Ridership Days Open Rides/Bike/Day Station 3,966 114 4.1 2. Stata Mass Ave / Amherst 7,077 INFOGRAPHIC BY ANTHONY YU

NBA ALL-STAR WEEKEND

From the "Shooting Stars" to the All-Star

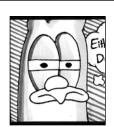
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POINT: WEAKENS SELF-DEFENSE

Stricter gun control is not the solution. OPINION, p. 4

COUNTERPOINT: LIFE-SAVING

Gun control could save lives and free us from fear. OPINION, p. 4



THE PIGEONS. **THEY'RE BACK**

And this time with Abraham Lincoln. What happens in your dreams?. FUN, p. 10

UP, UP IN THE **CLOUDS**

The secret life studying cloud formation in the Green Building.

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Skepticism surrounds resumption of nuclear talks with Iran

ALMATY, Kazakhstan — Talks between Iran and six world powers over its nuclear program resume here on Tuesday after a break of eight months, but there is a general atmosphere of gloom about their prospects for success, even if narrowly defined.

Since talks in Moscow last June, Iran has continued to increase its stockpile of uranium enriched to 20 percent purity, has begun to install a new generation of centrifuges and has not yet completed an agreement on inspection of suspect military sites with the International Atomic Energy Agency, a deal originally advertised as all but done last May.

With presidential elections in Iran scheduled for June, senior Western diplomats involved with these talks expressed skepticism that Tehran's chief negotiator, Saeed Jalili, would be willing to make compromises that could be portrayed as weakness at home. Jalili is the personal representative of Iran's supreme leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, considered the dominant voice on the nuclear issue. Khamenei has recently expressed continued mistrust of the United States and its intentions, saying that he would not allow the kind of bilateral talks between Washington and Tehran that most analysts think would be crucial to any resolution.

At the same time, Iran has taken some of its stockpile of 20 percent enriched uranium and converted it into reactor fuel, which cannot easily be turned back. The conversion means that Iran now has less of the uranium needed to make a bomb, reducing the sense of urgency among the six powers, and Israel, that its nuclear program needs to be slowed.

–Steven Erlanger, The New York Times

Academy Award show raises ratings and hackles

LOS ANGELES — Jewish, women's and family organizations on Monday publicly flung knives at Seth MacFarlane's off-color Oscar show. Hollywood for the most part stayed true to form and aimed its cutlery at his back.

Post-Oscar Monday found the movie capital coming to grips with a 3-hour, 35-minute ceremony that climbed in the ratings but at its best seemed to hide a great year for film behind a flurry of musical numbers, TV memories and Michelle Obama. At its worst, members of the Academy of the Motion Picture Arts and Sciences said, the ceremony trafficked in offensive humor.

"I think I'm a very liberal guy, but I actually winced," said Lawrence Turman, an Academy member who is chairman of the Peter Stark Producing Program at the University of Southern California's School of Cinematic Arts.

He echoed criticism that a number of people in Hollywood voiced privately, speaking on the condition of anonymity to avoid complicating relations with the Academy and the show's producers.

Turman, who described the producers, Craig Zadan and Neil Meron, as longtime friends, referred specifically to a joke by MacFarlane about the assassination of Abraham Lincoln.

Cathy Schulman, a producer who won a best picture Oscar in the past for "Crash" and is the president of the industry group Women in Film, took aim at a song-and-dance routine about female nudity in film. "Among the women I've talked to today I would say I haven't heard from any who thought it was in good taste," Schulman said. She expressed particular chagrin that the dance number poked fun at nudity, which is generally a difficult issue for actresses, in connection with performances that were often "wrenching and moving in many ways."

But the ratings were good, and almost nothing counts for more where the Oscar enterprise is concerned. The show drew an average audience of 40.3 million viewers, up about 3 percent from last year, according to the Nielsen ratings service.

—Michael Cieply and Brooks Barnes, The New York Times

South Korean president warns North against nuclear pursuits

By Choe Sang-Hun
THE NEW YORK TIMES

SEOUL, South Korea — The country's new president, Park Geun-hye, was sworn into office Monday, facing far more complicated fissures both within South Korea and with North Korea than her father did during his Cold War dictatorship, which ended with his assassination 33 years ago.

Park, 61, is the first child of a former president to take power here, as well as the first woman, a remarkable turn for a country where Parliament, the Cabinet and corporate board rooms are predominantly male and the gender income gap is the widest among member countries of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development.

In her address, Park called for the revival of an economic boom her father, Park Chung-hee, had once overseen and urged North Korea to abandon its nuclear weapons program.

Park's return to the presidential Blue House, her childhood home,

was a triumphant moment for her and South Koreans loyal to her father. His quashing of dissent and censorship of the press in his 18 years of iron-fisted rule were much maligned among South Koreans during the country's struggle for democracy.

She was elected Dec. 19, thanks largely to the support of South Koreans in their 50s and older who grew disenchanted with fractured politics and recalled how South Korea under the dictatorship had begun its evolution from a country where per-capita income was just \$100 a year into what is now an economic powerhouse whose smartphones, cars and ships are exported around the world.

But Park begins a single, fiveyear term facing sharp criticism from younger and liberal South Koreans who have no fear of speaking out. When she named Queen Elizabeth I of Britain as her role model, they filled blogs with derision for her sense of entitlement. They openly called her election a return to the past, arguing that the seeds of some of the country's biggest problems, such as the unruly influence of family controlled conglomerates, were sown under her father and accused her of glorifying his rule.

South Korea's political rivalries are freewheeling, evidenced most recently by the arrest of a 76-year-old Christian pastor last week who claimed that Park had sex with the North Korean leader Kim Jong-Il during her visit to Pyongyang in 2002. His videotaped allegations were circulated widely through the Internet.

Meanwhile, two weeks before Park's inauguration, North Korea detonated an underground nuclear device, testing her campaign promise to reach out to the North to help end five years of diplomatic silence and high tension on the divided Korean Peninsula under her predecessor, Lee Myung-bak, a fellow conservative.

In her inaugural address, Park said, "North Korea's recent nuclear test is a challenge to the survival and future of the Korean people, and there should be no mistake that the biggest victim will be none other than North Korea itself."

Senate set to test support for vote on Defense nominee Chuck Hagel

By Jeremy W. Peters

THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON — The Senate is scheduled to vote Tuesday on whether to cut off debate on the nomination of Chuck Hagel as defense secretary, testing whether there is support for a final vote to confirm President Barack Obama's embattled nominee.

The Senate majority leader, Harry Reid of Nevada, said that he intended to try to end the Republican filibuster of Hagel, a former Republican senator from Nebraska whose nomination was blocked Feb. 14.

While the Senate is ultimately expected to confirm Hagel, albeit narrowly, it remained unclear just how many more obstacles Republicans were willing to throw in his path.

If Hagel receives the required 60 votes as expected, the Senate could

proceed immediately to a final vote if no senator objects.

If an objection is raised, Senate rules allow that the final vote can be delayed another 30 hours, meaning a vote could not take place until midday Wednesday.

For weeks, Hagel's nomination has been bogged down in the Senate as members of both parties scrutinized his background — demanding answers on everything from his feelings toward Israel and Iran to the income he made from speechmaking once he left the

Opposition to his nomination — which has drawn the Obama administration into an uncomfortable fight with Senate Republicans as it tries to negotiate several other major issues with Congress like a fiscal plan and gun control — has become a galvanizing cause among many conservatives.

Independent political groups

have mobilized to try to dig up anything unflattering they could find on Hagel. Although they have not found much, the frenzy has at times resulted in Republican senators throwing out incendiary charges that have stretched the bounds of Senate collegiality, especially considering that Hagel is a former member of their ranks.

member of their ranks.

Even though many Republicans remain firmly opposed to Hagel, efforts to filibuster his nomination — a first for a nominee for defense secretary — appear to be winding down. In recent days, senators like John McCain of Arizona who were among the most outspoken Republican opponents of Hagel have indicated that they would vote to end the filibuster this week.

And some of them have signaled that they are setting their sights on the next confirmation fight: John Brennan, Obama's pick for CIA director.

WEATHER

Blizzard in Great Plains brings Tech great rains

By Vince Agard

STAFF METEOROLOGIST

The same winter storm that yesterday brought blizzard conditions to parts of Texas, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Kansas will reach our area tomorrow. However, warm temperatures will likely preclude us from experiencing similar conditions, as most of the precipitation is expected to fall as rain. Still, the weather will be relatively unpleasant during the storm, with gusty winds

accompanying rain that will become heavy at times. Furthermore, the track of the storm will cause its effects to linger for the remainder of the week. Fortunately, sunshine should return in time for Saturday and Sunday.

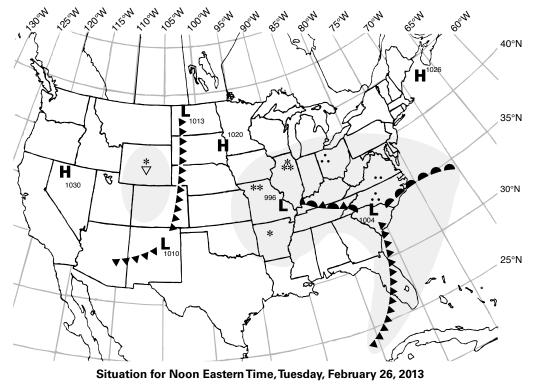
While this storm is not likely to be historic in New England, it does fall on the anniversary of a significant winter storm: On this week in 1969, Boston recorded 26.3 inches of accumulation after 101 consecutive hours of snowfall.

Extended Forecast

Today: Morning sunshine, becoming cloudy. High 41°F (5°C). Wind E at 5–10 mph.

Tonight: Cloudy with a wintry mix beginning late, Low 32°F (0°C). Wind E at 10–15 mph.

Tomorrow: Windy with wintry mix changing to rain, High 40°F (4°C). Wind E at 15–25 mph, gusting higher at times. **Thursday**: Rain continuing with highs in the mid 40s°F (8°C).



Weather Systems	Weather Fronts	Precipita	ation Sy	ymbols	Othe	er Symbols
			Snow	Rain		Fog
High Pressure	Trough Warm Front	Showers	*	$\dot{\nabla}$	ス	Thunderstorn
Low Pressure		Light	*	•	$ \infty $	Haze
8	AAAA Cold Front	Moderate	**	••	Comp	piled by MIT
§ Hurricane	Stationary Front	Heavy	.*.			orology Staff

Obama urges Congress to find compromise on budget cuts

By Michael D. Shear THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON — With automatic budget cuts set to hit by the end of the week, President Barack Obama on Monday again warned of dire consequences and urged Congress to find a way to compromise in the next four days.

"These cuts do not have to happen," Obama told a gathering of the nation's governors at the White House. "Congress can turn them off at any time with just a little bit of compromise."

The president acknowledged that the effects of the \$85 billion in automatic cuts — known as sequestration — would not "all be felt" when the cuts become law Friday. But he

said that the effects of the cuts would grow over time. "The longer these cutbacks are in place, the bigger the impact will be," he told the governors. He also urged them to talk to lawmakers and "remind them in no uncertain terms exactly what is at stake."

But the White House and Republicans in Congress have shown no evidence of plans to actually negotiate in an effort to avert the automatic cuts.

Obama's administration has spent the past week painting an increasingly bleak picture of life in America after the cuts: jobs lost, government contracts cut, Federal Aviation Administration facilities closed, child care made scarce. Over the weekend, the administration released what it said would be the effects of cuts, state by state.

In the meeting with the governors, Obama said the impact could be avoided if Republicans would be willing to embrace some increase in revenue by closing tax loopholes that grant breaks to the wealthy and to corporations. In exchange, Obama said that Democrats would be willing to accept what he called modest changes in entitlement programs like Medicare. He said that Congress should also agree to new spending on infrastructure and preschool, and that such programs would save money in the long run. "There are always going to be areas where we have some genuine disagreements," Obama said. "There are more areas where we can do a lot more cooperating than, I think, we've seen over the last several years."

Republicans sign brief in support of gay marriage

By Sheryl Gay Stolberg
THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON — Dozens of prominent Republicans — including top advisers to former President George W. Bush, four former governors and two members of Congress — have signed a legal brief arguing that gay people have a constitutional right to marry, a position that amounts to a direct challenge to Speaker John A. Boehner and reflects the civil war in the party since the November election.

The document will be submitted

this week to the Supreme Court in support of a suit to strike down Proposition 8, a California ballot initiative barring same-sex marriage, and all similar bans. The court will hear back-to-back arguments next month in that case and another pivotal gay rights case that challenges the 1996 federal Defense of Marriage Act.

The Proposition 8 case already has a powerful conservative supporter: Theodore B. Olson, the former solicitor general under Bush and one of the suit's two lead lawyers. The amicus, or friend of the court, brief is being filed with Olson's blessing.

It argues, as he does, that same-sex marriage promotes family values by allowing children of gay couples to grow up in two-parent homes, and that it advances conservative values of "limited government and maximizing individual freedom."

Legal analysts said the brief had the potential to sway conservative justices as much for the prominent names attached to it as for its legal arguments. The list of signers includes a string of Republican officials and influential thinkers — 75 as of Monday evening — who are not ordinarily associated with gay rights advocacy.

Video claims family held by Nigerian extremists

LAGOS, Nigeria — A French family kidnapped last week on the Cameroon-Nigeria border appeared on a video posted on YouTube Monday, with one of the hostages and a gunman claiming that the family is being held by Nigerian Islamist extremist group Boko Haram.

The family — three adults and four children — are shown sitting on the ground inside a sort of tent made from prayer mats, in front of a black Qaida-style banner, grim-faced but apparently in good health. The children, boys ages 5 to 12, fidget and glance at the camera. The family is flanked by two masked, fatigues-wearing men holding rifles, and in front of them is another masked hostage taker, who reads out a statement in Arabic demanding the release of "brothers" and "sisters" and threatening twice to "slaughter those we took" unless the group's demands are met.

The French military campaign against Islamist militants in Mali is obliquely referred to by the masked gunman, who says "the president of France" has "waged war against Islam."

—Adam Nossiter, The New York Times

Ex-director of Goldman Sachs told to repay legal costs

NEW YORK — A federal judge on Monday ordered Rajat K. Gupta, a former Goldman Sachs director, to pay the bank more than \$6.2 million to reimburse it for legal expenses connected to his insider trading case.

Last June, a jury convicted Gupta, 64, of leaking boardroom secrets about Goldman to hedge fund manager Raj Rajaratnam, who himself was convicted of insider trading in 2011 and sentenced to 11 years in prison. The presiding judge, Jed S. Rakoff, sentenced Gupta to two years in prison. He is free on bail while appealing the conviction.

Goldman had sought \$6.9 million in reimbursement from Gupta, which represented the total amount the bank had paid to its primary outside counsel at the law firm Sullivan & Cromwell for an internal investigation and other expenses.

-Peter Lattman, The New York Times

Cannibal case trial begins

NEW YORK — Kathleen Mangan-Valle, said that when she delved into her husband's electronic chat history, she found he had been communicating with others about plans to torture and kill women, including herself. "I was going to be tied up by my feet and my throat slit, and they would have fun watching the blood gush out of me," she said, sobbing repeatedly through her afternoon on the witness stand.

The officer, Gilberto Valle, has been charged with plotting on the Internet to kidnap, rape, kill, and cannibalize female victims. His wife was the first witness in the trial, which began on Monday in U.S. District Court in Manhattan.

—Benjamin Weiser, The New York Times



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How should MIT and the nation respond to calls for gun control?

Gun control could prevent lawful self-defense

By A.J. Edelman

STAFF COLUMNIST

By now there must be a special command bunker ready for the White House communications team to man when Ioe Biden decides to hold a press conference. If it exists, it certainly would have been used last week. Responding to Kate Ernest, who asked how a law-abiding citizen should best protect themselves if they have no access to firearms, the Vice President exclaimed, "Buy a shotgun! Buy a shotgun!" As the words rolled off of Veep's tongue, communications staffers were likely sent into a panic mode that has become all too familiar.

"I said, 'Jill, if there's ever a problem, just walk out on the balcony here, walk out and put that double-barrel shotgun and fire two blasts outside the house," Biden said.

Why a shotgun? Because "you don't need an AR-15. It's harder to aim, it's harder to use." Biden's advice is not only strategically poor (firing two rounds into the air from a two-round shotgun leaves you effectively unarmed), but it also leaves one vulnerable to the very real possibility of negligent homicide, as bullets that are fired up eventually do come down, many times with deadly consequences.

Biden's remarks exemplify just how disconnected many ideologues are on the issue of gun control and use. Carrying a gun allows one to defend oneself in times of personal

Individuals should have the right to protect themselves in times of perceived danger.

Additionally, research suggests that stricter gun laws correlate to increased rates in violent crime. Harvard criminologists Don Kates and Gary Mauser authored a study examining American and European gun laws and violence rates in exhaustive detail. According to Mauser and Kates, nations with stringent antigun laws generally have substantially higher murder rates than those that do not. In 2006,

John Moorhouse and Brent Wanner studied how crime rates responded to gun control laws. The findings showed that gun control laws do not affect crime rates, and that a ban instituted post-shooting does not affect the crime rate itself, but that the use of the specific weapon is sometimes altered.

There is little evidence to suggest that stringent gun control measures will be effective.

"Republican obstructionism!" or "Tea-Partyers!" are frequent phrases thrown around in any argument in order to delegitimize the possible validity of a dissenting opinion. Such is the case with the recent discourse on gun control measures. Increased background check measures poll favorably across the political spectrum. And while polls suggest that both Republicans and Democrats favor increased background checks, the NRA does not, and with good reason.

The NICS background check system works. Adam Lanza, the Newtown shooter, stole his guns — he did not buy them. To cite the NICS in any Newtown-related discussion should include that Lanza acquired his firearms through theft, not a faulty NICS system. When someone cites the statistic that 40 percent of firearms aren't checked with NICS, that is because those firearms were purchased over 20 years ago and are no longer sold at licensed firearms vendors.

As Vice President Biden said earlier this month, there are too many gun control laws on the books to be able to enforce them all properly, especially when it comes to background checks.

The real issue when it comes to gun control discourse is that individuals should have the right to protect themselves in times of perceived danger.

Tragedies certainly put the debate into perspective. But tragedies do not change the following realities: our society is plagued by violent crime, and responsible gun ownership is an effective means of self-defense.

Current gun control proposals could save lives

By Andy Liang

STAFF COLUMNIST

On Saturday morning, the entire MIT community was warned: "There was a person with a long rifle and body armor in the Main Group Building of MIT." Minutes later, emails sent by RLADs, friends, and family members were less measured: "GUNMAN, STAY INSIDE!", "Are you okay? Are you okay? Answer me!" Students stayed in, parents called in, and SWAT teams and news crews assembled.

Thankfully, the report was false, no one was hurt, and MIT is now safe. I realize that some readers would not want to think about politics, or discuss the issue of gun control. But we need to ask ourselves: what could have been?

The effects of gun violence are both devastating and posttraumatic. It has been just over two months since 26 students, faculty, and staff were shot and killed in Sandy Hook Elementary School. Memories of that day continue to haunt the residents of Newtown, Ct. In supermarket aisles, residents adorned shirts that read we are Newton 12.14.12." On the local Walgreens counter rested "Angels of Sandy Hook" bracelets. A memorial near the school commemorates those who passed away with white crosses pinned under an American flag. The town seems frozen in time.

One man. One gun. Lifetimes of tragedy.

If our lawmakers can prevent these potential criminals from obtaining guns, we can save lives, and prevent further suffering.

Forty percent of current gun purchases do not run checks for buyers' criminal or mental health records. But Senators Charles Schumer (D-NY), and Tom Coburn (R-OK), are drafting a bill to require background checks on all gun sales, both public and private. The bill also allows for private sales without record keeping, and for loopholes making straw purchases (buying guns for those unable to) possible. By running through the National Instant Criminal Background Check System, criminals and mentally unstable buyers would unable to purchase guns. But as with any serious reg-

ulatory policy-planning, there

is always a group screaming "Liberty!"

In this case, we have the National Rifle Association (NRA). The NRA believes that this legislation would lead to the development of a national gun registry, and that the Obama administration is exploiting current events and fears to advance its own gun control agenda. Tea party activists backing the NRA believe that the Obama administration wants to tear up the second amendment.

Pro-gun activists argue that gun-free zones are potential shooting grounds, as they point to Rep. Gabby Giffords's unforeseen incident as an example. They advocate for armed security guards to patrol the school to protect students.

If we have the ability to save even one life, we should take action.

In Maricopa County, Arizona, Sheriff Arpaio took this advice to heart and enlisted actor/martial artist/producer/writer/musician Seagal to train a posse for prepared combat services. The school simulated a school shooting and, "drawing from his martial arts skills, the 'Above the Law' and 'Hard to Kill' actor demonstrated the appropriate response to single and multiple-shooter scenarios...," reminding the students that school is a never-ending battleground between posses and gunmen played out in an almost Counterstrike-fashion.

Hopefully, Congress and the American people will not be victimized by unreasonable, irrational, and obstinate gun activists. Gun control needs to be instated to stem gun violence. There are no excuses. The Tea Party caucus needs to cast partisanship aside because their solutions are just not working.

In this country, and around the world, "Liberty!" is a seductive cry. But gun violence has undermined our liberty by eroding our freedom from fear. Gun control legislation may not be perfect, but gun control advocates have the right to cry "Liberty!" as well.

OPINION POLICY

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Dissents are the signed opinions of editorial board members choosing to publish their disagreement with the editorial.

Letters to the editor, columns, and editorial cartoons are written by individuals and represent the opinion of the author, not necessarily that of the newspaper. Electronic submissions are encouraged and should be sent to *letters@tech.mit.edu*. Hard copy submissions should be addressed to *The Tech*, P.O. Box 397029, Cambridge, Mass. 02139-7029, or sent by interdepartmental mail to Room W20-483. All submissions are due by 4:30 p.m. two days before the date of publication.

Letters, columns, and cartoons must bear the authors' signatures, addresses, and phone numbers. Unsigned letters will not be accepted. *The Tech* reserves the right to edit or

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Head in the clouds

The mystery of cloud formation precipitates research

By Sarvesh Garimella

As undergraduates at MIT, we whispered under our breaths as we passed the Green Building about the lonely, mysterious graduate students who worked there - "The lights never go off! There is always someone there." As a graduate student, $I've \, had \, the \, privilege \, to \, meet \, some \, of those$ nocturnal souls. This is one of their stories. -Emily A. Moberg

My name is Sarvesh Garimella, and I have chosen to lead the mysterious life of a researcher for the next few years. As a graduate student studying climate science in the Earth, Atmospheric, and Planetary Sciences Department (Course 12, for those of you who keep track of such things), I spend the majority of my time running experiments in the MIT Aerosol and Cloud Laboratory and analyzing the data from these experiments.

Basically, I look at how aerosol particles interact with water vapor in the atmosphere to form various types of clouds. I am interested in the microphysics of these interactions and how they affect the formation and persistence of clouds in Earth's atmosphere. In fact, the lack of understanding on how clouds behave in the climate system is the single largest uncertainty in all of the climate sciences-something we cloud scientists like to call job security.

So here's what we do know: aerosol particles alone tend to have a net cooling effect on the climate system since they reflect and scatter incoming solar radiation, preventing it from reaching the surface. However, these particles also

interact with water in the atmosphere to form various types of clouds through a variety of physical mechanisms. These clouds can either cool or warm the Earth since they can reflect light back to space as well as prevent heat from escaping

The topic of cloud formation requires a great deal of **fundamental** research but also has wide societal implications.

Because the characteristics of clouds depend on many dynamical and physical factors (like the temperature, relative humidity, aerosol particle number, particle size, and particle composition), we need to perform experiments in the laboratory to determine how, when, and what type of clouds can form under particular conditions. In order to understand how Earth's climate will evolve as a result of human activities, we need to pin down the role of aerosols and clouds. They are the single largest source of uncertainty in the climate system, especially because of a lack of physical underpinnings to describe their behavior.

On a day-to-day basis, I spend my time in lab using cloud chambers to study droplet or ice crystal formation in

the presence of aerosol particles. There are several types of cloud chambers, but all of them allow us to control the temperature and relative humidity that aerosol particles encounter. I look at the data from these experiments to investigate how well various types of particles seed clouds in the atmosphere.

In particular, I am interested in how mineral dust aerosols - those blown from arid regions — affect the ability for clouds to form. They are very abundant in Earth's atmosphere and are responsible for a great deal of cloud seeding. Often times, mineral dust also has biological or anthropogenic material included in it, which drastically changes this cloud-seeding ability. These changes can have a significant effect on future climate. However, such effects are poorly understood, so I am investigating them in the laboratory.

Overall, I find the topic of cloud formation a fascinating one since it requires a great deal of fundamental research but also has wide societal implications. I have greatly enjoyed the work I have been able to do so far, especially spending a summer doing research in Germany, and I look forward to helping answer some fundamental questions in the field. Luckily for me, answers to these questions are still fairly elusive: as a result, I am guaranteed a mysterious life for years to come.

Want to write about your experiences in research in this column? Email emoberg@mit.edu and cl@ the-tech.mit.edu to find out more and

EVENTS FEB. 26 - MAR. 4

TUESDAY

(12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.) Artists Beyond the Desk presents Gabriel Zucker's piano sonatas — 14W-

(3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.) Cory Doctorow: "A World Made of Computers: Why Getting It Wrong Matters" talk on technology regulation — E14-633

WEDNESDAY

(12:00 p.m.) CAST Music and Technology: Eric Singer, concert of robotic musical instruments - CAMPUS

(7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.) South Asian Women Resist: Religious Fundamentalism, Imperialism, and The State in Bangladesh, India, and Pakistan — 4-231

THURSDAY

(4:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.) Skoltech & MIT Russia Distinguished Lecture Series: Reset 2.0: Prospects and Possibilities? — 56-114

(6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.) Women in the MA Game Industry: A Discussion of Diversity, Challenges and Progress — Microsoft NERD Center, 1 Memorial

FRIDAY

(7:00 p.m.) LSC shows Argo — 26-100

(7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.) ORCHIDS: an intersex adventure, film screening — 6-120

SATURDAY

(2:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.) Jai Bhim Comrade documentary by Annd Patwardhan — 26-100

(7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.) Debut concert by EVIYAN Iva Bittova, violinist/vocalist; Gyan Riley, guitarist; and Evan Ziporyn — Kresge Auditorium

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Chris, Course ${f 16}$	Austin, Course 8	Derek, Course $oldsymbol{1}$
Anne, Course $f 17$	Ian, Course 9	Sarah, Course 2
Leon, Course 18	Joyce, Course 10	Annia, Course $oldsymbol{3}$
Jack, Course 19	Sara, Course 11	Jenny, Course 4
Stan, Course 20	Vince, Course 12	Elijah, Course 5
Stephen, 21/CMS	Anthony, Course 14	Deborah, Course 6
Keith, Course 22	Maggie, Course 15	Kali, Course 7

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Abraham the Common Father of Jews, Christians Muslims?







Biblical Scholar: Prof. Jon D. Levenson Harvard Divinity School Albert A. List Professor of Jewish Studies

Tuesday, March 5, 2013, 7:15 pm

W11—Main Dining Room, Corner Amherst and Mass. Ave.

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MIT Interfaith Dialogue

Tuesday, February 26, 2013 6 THE TECH

First set of Media Lab Director's Fellows selected

Joi Ito picked nine leaders of their respective fields to be part of Media Lab initiative

Fellows, from Page 1

fields," explained Ito in an interview with The Tech. "Each of them has a tremendous amount of potential or is already quite accomplished in whatever they do."

The type of work each Fellow does varies immensely - diversity that Ito hand-picked. Open education activist Philipp Schmidt first met Ito when Ito sat on the board of Creative Commons. At the time, Schmidt was trying to persuade more universities to make their course material public by adopting Creative Commons licenses.

"I think about ways the Media Lab could do online learning. And then I build prototypes and experiment with new tools and approaches, to try it out," Schmidt said of his current work. "We just launched the first one at http://learn.media. mit.edu (an online course called Learning Creative Learning) which is a collaboration with Mitch Resnick and his group Lifelong Kindergarten."

The type of work each Fellow does varies immensely — diversity that Ito hand-picked.

Schmidt continued, "I will definitely be here through the summer, and I am already hatching plans to stay longer. Building on the experience with Learning Creative Learning, I plan to build a range of online courses as well as some learning opportunities that look nothing like

Fellow Chris Bevans is a fashion designer whose clientele includes celebrities such as Jay-Z, Kanye West, and John Legend.

"As 1 of 9 of the Director's Fellows, it's truly an honor to have a fellowship with the Media Lab. My specialty is fashion design and textiles," wrote Bevans in an email to The Tech. "So, my goal is to work with some of the PhD students that are innovating in the field, create and collaborate with them, and share our ideas with the world of fashion. I've already started working with a few students on a very exciting project around sound reactive materials."

Ito had offered Abrams a position on the Media Lab's Advisory Board, but he turned it down to be a Fellow.

Fellow J.J. Abrams is similarly no stranger to celebrities, although his work consists of designing films rather than clothing. His next movie, Star Trek Into the Darkness, is slated to come out in May. Ito had initially offered Abrams a position on the Media Lab's Advisory Board, but he turned it down to be a Director's Fellow. Ito took this as a positive sign that Abrams intends to do serious work at the Media Lab, although the two are still in the midst of syncing timing.

Ito explained, "He's, as you can imagine, really busy, so the scheduling part is going to be tricky, but we're working on trying to figure out the period that he'll be here." According to Ito, the idea is for Abrams to spend about three weeks in the area when he comes up to the East Coast for family trips.

"When he came [to the Media Lab], he got super excited, and the thing that was interesting is that it wasn't that he got excited about ideas for his next movie," said Ito. "He got excited about the idea of actually doing stuff here."



Joi Ito, Director of the Media Lab, speaks about the creation of the Director's Fellows program.

Although Ito became director of the Media Lab only a little more than a year ago, in November 2011, he said that he had been thinking about the fellowship program for a while. "I had the idea very early on, even before I started officially. I started bringing people through the Lab as speakers and as visitors. But many of them felt like they could have an ongoing relationship with the Lab, so I started informally bringing people in," Ito said. "From a communications perspective, a fundraising perspective and sort of a program perspective, it runs better if you formalize it a little bit and create some

structure, so we did that."

Ito admits that the Fellows Program is currently a work in progress, but hopes to formalize the process of selecting Fellows in the future.

"All the initial fellows are people who I've gotten to know through my travels, so I know their personalities relatively well," said Ito. He currently also sits on the board of directors of the MacArthur Foundation, the same group that awards the MacArthur "Genius Grant" Fellowships. From his experience there, Ito hopes to find inspiration in selecting the next Fellows.

"They are very good at finding

people who no one knows, who are extremely interesting, who are extremely diverse," Ito pointed out. "There's a possibility that I may steal some pages out of the MacArthur Fellows playbook."

He already has a list of people being considered for next year's fellowship. However, regardless of whom he selects, Ito hopes to reach out to involve more of the MIT community in the program.

"They're Media Lab Fellows, but it's MIT Media Lab, and I'd love to try to figure out ways to have our Fellows interact with more of the rest of MIT," said Ito.

Chorallaries present concert in Bad Taste



Jamal A. Elkhader '13 performs at the nth Annual Concert in Bad Taste in front of a rowdy audience in 26-100 on Saturday evening as streams of toilet paper thrown by crowd members



Members of the crowd during the nth Annual Concert in Bad Taste throw rolls of toilet paper

Jim Gaffigan brings chuckles to MIT



"Husband to hot wife, father of five, comedian, actor, writer, [and] former sleeper" Jim Gaffigan performed last Friday night in front of a packed Kresge Auditorium. His jokes spanned a wide range of topics, often food-related. The show was sponsored by the SHASS Department's de Florez Fund for Humor, and tickets were given to MIT students, faculty, and staff via a lottery.

Tuesday, February 26, 2013

The Tech 7

MIT Global Poverty Initiative co-hosts International Developement Hackathon



(left to right) Jorge Malibran Angel G, Roberto J. Melendez '12, and Kevin Kung G discuss a possible project at the 28-hour International Development (ID) Hackathon last Friday, Feb. 22. Co-hosted by the MIT Global Poverty Initiative and Harvard Developers for Development at the Microsoft NERD center, ID Hack brought together hackers and NGOs from the greater Boston area to work on projects that will make an impact on international development. At the kickoff on Friday evening, over thirty groups pitched ideas to developers, engineers and innovators. After, the entire group mixed to form teams to hack on specific projects.



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TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2013

Timeline of MIT notifications unclear

Over an hour between police response to gunman & alerts to students

Hoax, from Page 1

tem." The tipster's IP address indicated New York, although it does not necessarily mean the tipster was physically in New York. The Boston Globe reported that Cambridge Police spokesperson Dan Riviello said, "The threat did not come via one of the department's anonymous tip submission platforms." When asked by The Tech via email to clarify the "Internet relay," Riviello declined to comment because of their ongoing investigation.

According to police radio traffic, shortly before 9 a.m., an MIT staff member with the same name as one provided by the hoaxster was questioned by police but was uninvolved with the incident.

Around 10 a.m., the Cambridge police started to clear the scene, and at 10:19 a.m., the Cambridge Police tweeted, "Scene is clear. Call unfounded. No threat to public safety in #CambMA #MIT." MIT Alert sent a text message at 10:46 a.m. saying "Cambridge Police have issued all-clear. MIT returning to normal operation. MIT PD will monitor campus."

The FBI and Secret Service are working together with the Cambridge Police to investigate.

The FBI and Secret Service are working in conjunction with the Cambridge Police to investigate the hoax, according to Cambridge Police Department spokesperson Dan Riviello. In a press conference on Saturday, Cambridge police commissioner Robert Haas said, "If we do indeed identify this person, we will be seeking criminal charges." According to an email from MIT spokesperson Nate Nickerson, however, there is no comment at this time on whether MIT will be pressing charges, and MIT is currently "focused on cooperating in the investigation."

Timing of emergency alerts

A looming question that remains is why MIT's emergency alert

service took so long to send out an alert to students. Cambridge and MIT police were at Mass Ave by 7:30 a.m., but the first alert, which appeared at MIT's emergency information site (emergency.mit.net), appeared at 8:47 a.m., more than an hour later. Students signed up for emergency alerts got a text message around 8:51 a.m. and an email was sent out around 9:22 a.m. notifying students of the report and asking them to stay indoors and report suspicious activity to campus police.

The Cambridge Police sent out a tweet about the report of a possible gunman at 7:35 a.m. on Saturday.

In comparison, the Cambridge Police sent out a tweet saying "Report of a possible person with a gun on Massachusetts Ave in #Camb-MA" at 7:35 a.m.

At a press conference on Saturday, John DiFava, facility operations and security director, said that he was called at his home and "made the call to the appropriate people" after he got in his car and started down Highway 93. "The response from the alert came pretty quickly after I made that phone call," DiFava said. DiFava could not recall what time this happened.

At 8:37 a.m. ten minutes before the first alert from MIT was sent, someone at MIT's control station asked a sergeant if he should get in contact with the Security and Emergency Management Office (SEMO) to send out an alert asking people to stay out of the Main Group (MIT's central buildings), and the sergeant said he would call "the chief and Captain Pierce" who "were out." It is unclear whether DiFava's notification came before or after 8:37 a.m.

When asked about the lag, Di-Fava said, "I have to look into it and find out the reason for the lag."

Nickerson did not provide any new information when asked about timing of the emergency alerts.

service took so long to send out an alert to students. Cambridge and MIT police were at Mass Ave by 7:30 a.m., but the first alert, which

7:28 a.m.	Cambridge Police receive report of male with a "large firearm and wearing body armor." MIT Police is notified.
7:30 a.m.	Cambridge and MIT Police respond to 77 Massachusetts Avenue.
7:35 a.m.	Cambridge Police tweet "Report of possible person with gun on Mass Ave in #CambMA"
7:35 a.m.	State police begin shutting off traffic on Mass Ave between Vassar Street and Memorial Drive.
7:43 a.m.	Police have locked down the area around MIT's Main Group Buildings (although there were still reports of students and staff in the buildings later).
8:37 a.m.	Someone at the MIT Police's control center asked whether he should contact the Security and Emergency Management Office (SEMO) to send out an alert asking people to stay out of the Main Group (MIT's central buildings).
8:47 a.m.	MIT's emergency information website, <i>emergency.mit. net</i> , is updated. "This morning information was received from Cambridge Police that there was a person with a long rifle and body armor in the Main Group Building of MIT. Multiple law enforcement agencies have responded, please stay clear of the area until the authorities can confirm that it is safe to enter. More to follow."
8:51 a.m.	MIT's emergency alert sends a text message. "Multiple law enforcement agencies on campus in response to a report of a person with a gun on campus, further info on the Emergency Web Page."
9:10 a.m.	A second text message is sent out. "Multiple law enforcement agencies on campus in response to a report of a person with a gun on campus. Stay indoors and shelter in place and report suspicious activity to the campus police dispatch dial 100."
9:22 a.m.	MIT Alert sends out an email to all-campus@mit. edu saying "This morning information was received by Cambridge Police that there was a person with a long rifle and body armor in the Main Group Building of MIT. Multiple law enforcement agencies have responded, stay indoors and shelter in place and report suspicious activity to the campus police dispatch dial 100. More updates to follow on emergency.mit.net.
9:30 a.m.	A third text message says "Continue to shelter in place, report suspicious activity by cell phone to MIT Police."
Around 10:00 a.m.	Cambridge Police start to clear the scene.
10:19 a.m.	Cambridge Police tweet "Scene is clear. Call unfounded. No threat to public safety in #CambMA #MIT"
10:46 a.m.	MIT alert sends a text message saying "Cambridge

Police have issued all-clear. MIT returning to normal

operation. MIT PD will monitor campus."

— Joanna Kao



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Solution to Sudoku

from page 10

8	6	2	3	9	1	5	7	4
5	7	1	2	6	4	8	9	3
3	9	4		8	7	6	2	1
4	2	8	6	7	3	1	5	9
6	3	9	1	2	5	4	8	7
1	5	7	8	4	9	2	3	6
2	4	6	9	3	8	7	1	5
7	1	3	4	5	2	9	6	8
9	8	5	7	1	6	3	4	2

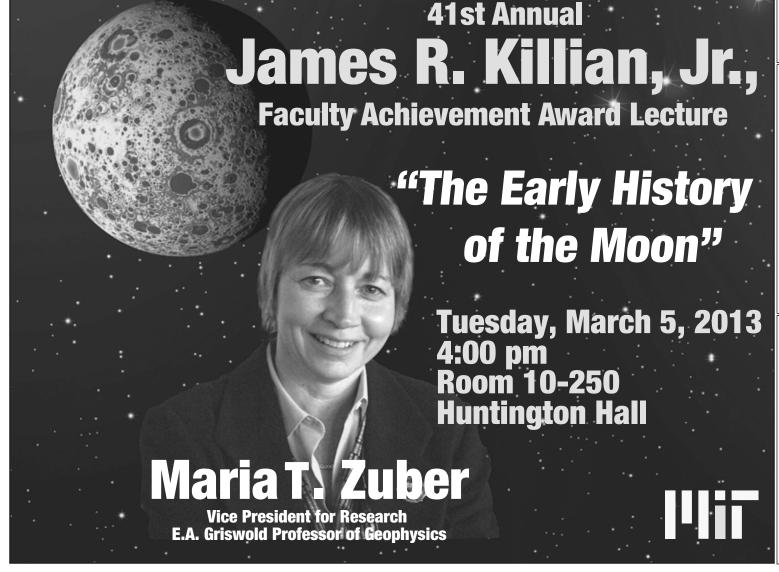
Solution to Techdoku

6 3 4 2 5 1 4 1 2 6 3 5 2 5 6 4 1 3 3 6 1 5 2 4 5 2 3 1 4 6 1 4 5 3 6 2

Solution to Crossword

from page 8

C	L	U	В	М	E	D		W	R	0	N	G	E	D
Н	Α	Ν	S	0	L	0		Н	1	М	0	R	М	Ε
I	N	Н	I	В	I	Т		0	Р	I	N	I	0	N
Α	C	ı	D	S		E	L	S		T	0	N	T	0
P	E	T	E		R	0	U	N	D		S	N	I	T
Е	Т	C		С	Α	N	T	E	Ε	N		Е	V	Ε
T	S	H	Т	R	T		E	X	P	Α	N	D	E	D
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F	T	R	E	W	o	O	D		S	0	U	G	Н	Т
I	Ν	Е		E	N	С	Α	G	Ε	S		L	Α	Α
A	Р	Р	Ŧ		s	Н	R	E	D		S	0	D	s
S	L	0	Α	N		N	Ε	Т		L	I	Α	R	S
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Tuesday, February 26, 2013 _____ The Tech 9



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Arts at MIT

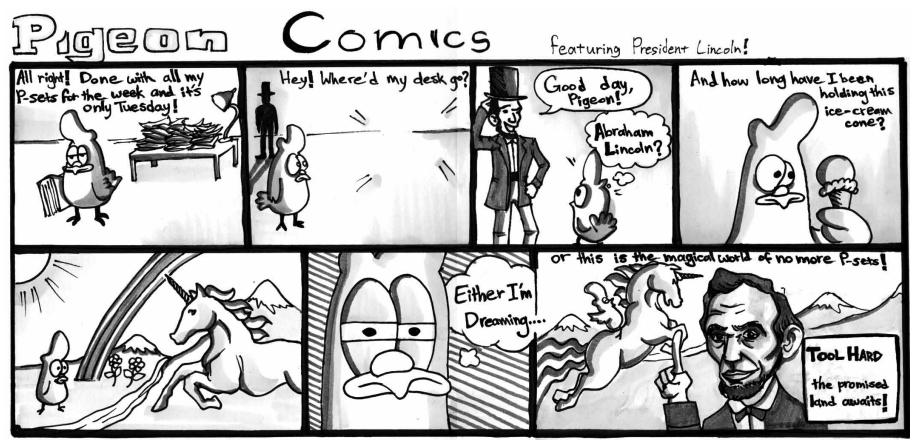




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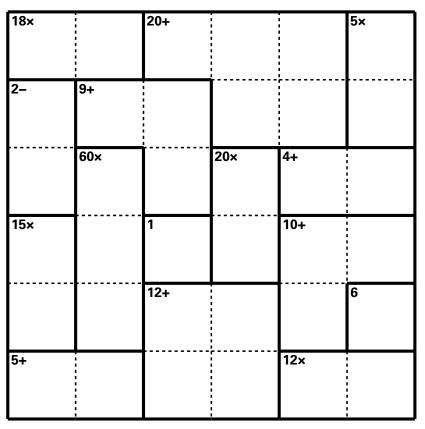
Any MIT student team in the \$100K competition is eligible to win \$10K if the arts or design are a core component of the proposal



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Techdoku

Solution, page 8



Instructions: Fill in the grid so that each column and row contains exactly one of each of the numbers 1-6. Follow the mathematical operations for each box.

Sudoku

Solution, page 8

	6					5		
	7		2			8	9	3
	9			8			2 5	1
			6			1	5	
	3			2			8	
	5	7			9			
2 7	4			3			1	
7	1	3			2		6 4	
		5					4	

Instructions: Fill in the grid so that each column, row, and 3 by 3 grid contains exactly one of each of the digits 1 through 9.

Saturday Stumper by Bruce R. Sutphin

Solution, page 8

ACROSS

- 1 "Where Happiness Means the World" sloganeer
- 8 Did a number on
- 15 Celluloid smuggler 16 Triangle ultimatum
- 17 Tie down
- 18 Mind
- 19 Pool supplies
- 20 Seven-time Presidents Cup competitor
- 22 Fool, to Felipe 23 Oil company, in Wall Street
- 24 Approximate
- 26 Stew
- 27 Short stop?
- 28 Word from the Italian for
- "wine cellar"
- 30 Threshold
- 31 Stadium cannon fodder 33 Added detail
- 35 Wind up
- 37 Earth _
- 42 Desired
- 38 Cord material
- 46 Brilliant finish

- 47 Coops up
- 49 AL West team, on scoreboards
- 50 Date, for short
- 52 Merest trace
- 53 Lays down some green
- 54 __ Foundation (major NPR donor)
- 56 Bring home
- 57 "It is the nature of ambition to make men ": Tvnan
- 58 Outlet for driving ambition 60 Doll
- 62 Despotic organization
- 63 Climactic 64 Petrarchan forms
- 65 Bars

DOWN

- 1 Terra-cotta novelty
- 2 Double-edged cutters
- 3 Separate
- 5 Overruns
- 6 Noah Webster, circa 1777

- 4 Elvis' "Hound Dog," for one

- 7 Spoil, perhaps

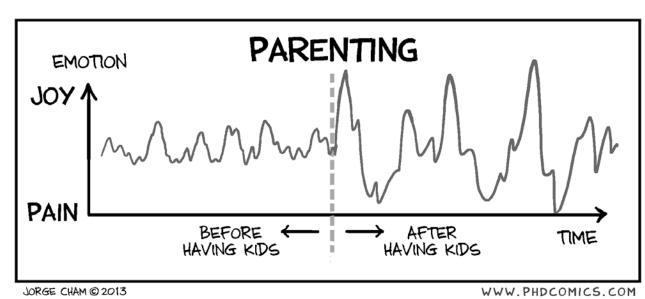
- 8 Tough guy's challenge
- 9 Split open
- 10 Don't use 11 Proscriptions
- 12 Showed defiance, perhaps
- 13 Stirring
- 14 Signaled
- 21 Renaissance music staple
- 24 Stretches out
- 25 Now powerless 28 Javert in 2012's Les Misérables
- 29 Mini successors in 2005
- 32 Lock up
- 34 Opposite of alt
- 36 Sight from the Great Glen Way
- 38 Major disasters
- 39 Where it should be 40 Accounts
- 41 Respond to pressure, in a
- way
- 43 He told you so
- 44 One of Machiavelli's "Five Good Emperors"
- 45 Fringe group
- 48 Intimates
- 17 18 19 23 31 38 39 40 43 |44 |45 46 50 54 58 60 61 62 63 64 65
- 51 What a reader may interpret 53 Persistence over

resistance

- 55 Barbering spot
- 57 10th-century pope
- 59 Off the team
- 61 Largest New Deal agcy.





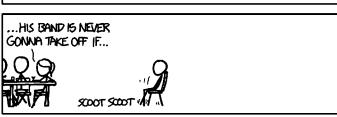


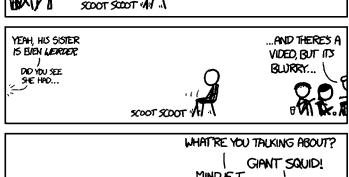
A WEBCOMIC OF ROMANCE, SARCASM, MATH, AND LANGUAGE by Randall Munroe

[1176] Those Not Present

EVERY TIME SOMEONE SAYS SOMETHING NEGATIVE ABOUT A PERSON WHO'S NOT IN THE ROOM, I SCOOT MY CHAIR BACK A FEW INCHES.







'Yeah, that squid's a total asshole.' [scoot scoot]

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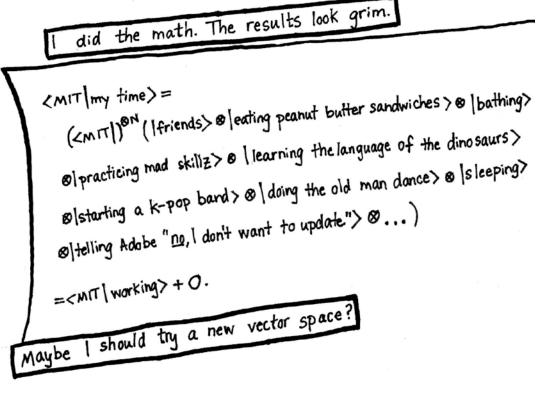
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Least Action Principle

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12 THE TECH Tuesday, February 26, 2013

West wins ASG; Irving takes 3-Point Shootout

Chris Paul takes home All-Star Game MVP Award with 20 points, 15 assists, 4 steals

Bv Austin Osborne SPORTS EDITOR

The NBA reached its unofficial halfway point last Friday with the beginning of All-Star Weekend. Unlike other professional sports, there are multiple events that the players participate in, namely the 3-Point Shootout, the "Shooting Stars" competition, the Skills Challenge, the All-Star game itself, and everyone's favor-

ite, the Slam Dunk Contest. Some of the biggest names in the league were on full display and there were definitely some surprise winners and losers.

Saturday's first "Shooting the Stars", was composed of four teams, each from a different region. Each team featured an NBA player, an NBA legend and a WNBA player. The teams had to make shots as quickly as possible from various positions around the court, concluding with a shot from half court. Team Westbrook — Russell Westbrook (Oklahoma City Thunder), Robert Horry (Legend), Maya Moore (Minnesota Lynx) - easily ousted Westbrook's former teammate's squad, Team Harden — James Harden (Houston Rockets), Sam Cassell (Legend), Tina Thompson (Seattle Storm) — in the first round, as they completed the course in an out-

standing 29.5 seconds. In the Eastern Conference, Team Bosh — Chris Bosh (Miami Heat), Dominique Wilkins (Legend), Swin Cash (Chicago Sky) beat Team Lopez — Brook Lopez (Brooklyn Nets), Muggsy Bogues (Legend), Tamika Catchings (Indiana Fever) - with a time of 50 seconds to move on the final round. Bosh's team started the course first, and they were highly unimpressive. They took 1:29 to complete the course, which was

much worse than their first

round time. It appeared as though Team Westbrook would easily take home the trophy, especially because they had over a minute to complete the final shot,

the half court heave. However, they

couldn't get the shot to go down. Westbrook almost made it himself on three separate occasions, but the ball rolled around the rim and fell out. With three seconds left, "Big Shot" Robert Horry had the last chance for Team Westbrook, but his shot clanked off the side of the rim, giving the victory to $% \left\{ \left\{ \left\{ \left\{ \left\{ \left\{ \right\} \right\} \right\} \right\} \right\} \right\} \right\}$ Team Bosh.

The next event was the Skills Challenge, an obstacle course of sorts, featuring shooting, passing and dribbling.

In the Eastern Conference, Brandon Knight (Detroit Pistons), Jrue Holiday (Philadelphia 76ers) and Jeff Teague (Atlanta Hawks) competed against each other in the first round. Teague struggled through the course, taking 49.4 seconds to finish, while the two rising stars Holiday and Knight blazed through the challenge (29.3 and 32.2 seconds, respectively). In the West, rookie Damian Lillard (Portland Trailblazers), Jeremy Lin (Houston Rockets), and reigning champion Tony Parker (San Antonio Spurs) competed for the other spot in the final round. Parker had a terrible showing, posting a time of 48.7 seconds. Lin had a fairly decent run, but Lillard ran away with the competition, as he never struggled with any of the obstacles. The final round featured the two young point guards, Holiday and Lillard. Holiday was moving through the course at a good pace until he came to the shot from the top of the key. There he struggled, taking multiple attempts and adding precious seconds to his already inflating time. It proved to be too much, and Lillard breezed through each trial and finished with a cool 29.8 seconds.

In the 3-Point Shootout, the West featured sharpshooter Stephen Curry (Golden State Warriors), Matt Bonner (San Antonio Spurs), and Ryan Anderson (New Orleans Hornets). Curry had a rough start and missed the majority of his first 10 shots. However, he started to heat up when he got to the third rack of balls and finished strong with a total score of 17. Ryan Anderson also had a good overall showing, posting a score of 18, but neither was good enough to beat Spurs big man Matt Bonner, who started the contest on fire and rode his fast start to a 19-point showing.

In the East, Paul George (Indiana Pacers), Steve Novak (New York Knicks) and Kyrie Irving (Cleveland Cavaliers) were the three competitors. George struggled through the entire competition, as he isn't known to be a particularly good set shooter. Steve Novak, however, is considered by many to be the best pure shooter in the NBA and he did not disappoint, posting a score of 17. Kyrie Irving surprised everyone, as he finished the first round with 18 points, ousting Novak and moving on the final round. From the instant he started shooting in the second round, Irving was on fire. He fell 2 points short of tying a 3-point contest record, as he scored an incredible 23 points. Matt Bonner had a good round himself, scoring 20, but he was no match for the league's newest superstar.

Forward Kevin **Durant was on fire** for the majority of the game, and he finished with 30 points.

Finally, six of the most athletic high-fliers in the NBA took the stage for the Sprite Slam Dunk Contest. For the West, Eric Bledsoe (Los Angeles Clippers), Kenneth Faried (Denver Nuggets) and Jeremy Evans (Utah Jazz) competed, while Gerald Green (Indiana Pacers), Terrence Ross (Toronto Raptors) and James White (New York Knicks) represented the East. The first round was fairly uninspiring, with many missed attempts and minimum scores.

One of the more notable attempts was from Gerald Green. He tried to dunk the ball twice while in air, but he wasn't able to complete the dunk in the allotted time. Jeremy Evans and Terrence Ross advanced past the first round and competed against each other in the championship. Evans started out the round by jumping over a covered portrait of himself performing the dunk. He revealed the painting after landing. Terrence Ross then successfully completed a beautiful reverse alley-oop from the side of the basket. Once again, Jeremy Evans took the court with a basketball in each hand and proceeded to dunk both in one attempt.

It was very impressive, but Ross's last attempt ended up deciding the victor. Donning a vintage Vince Carter jersey, he jumped over one of the ball boys and put the ball through his legs, finishing with a powerful slam. Both competitors were highly impressive, and brought some excitement to an event that has been lacking in recent years, but Ross went above and beyond to bring home the 2013 crown.

The weekend closed with the main event, the All-Star Game. Western forward Kevin Durant (Oklahoma City Thunder) was on fire for the majority of the game, and he finished with 30 points, leading all scorers. The game was close throughout as the West never had a lead greater than 8 points until the fourth quarter. LeBron James (Miami Heat) finished the game with 19 points, but was blocked twice in the waning seconds of the game by Kobe Bryant (Los Angeles Lakers), which sealed the East's fate. Chris Paul (Los Angeles Clippers) was voted MVP of the game for his outstanding performance. He had 15 assists and 4 steals to go along with 20 points.

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https://isn.mit.edu/internship/index.php

If you have questions about this program, or experience difficulty using the website, please contact Marlisha McDaniels, at the ISN: mmcd@mit.edu, 617.324.4700.

*The Army Lab provides the intern's salary, which typically ranges from \$2280/month to \$2864/month depending on class year. Under certain circumstances the ISN can provide the intern with a supplement of up to \$1500 to defray costs of local accommodations and travel.

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SPORTS SHORT

MIT falls to Springfield College in **NEWMAC tournament**

No. 2 ranked MIT fell in the semifinals round of the NEWMAC tournament to No. 3 Springfield College. William Tashman '13 led MIT with 19 points and 11 rebounds. After a hard-fought first half



with many runs by both teams, the Engineers went into the locker room up 34-30 at halftime. Springfield managed to remain close for the majority of the second half until 6:48 remaining when they tied the game. After regaining the lead, MIT struggled to score for the last five minutes of the game, which would prove to be their undoing. Springfield went on a 12-0 run and beat MIT,

68-60. After losing in the NEWMAC tournament, the Engineers must wait for the NCAA's selection to see if they earned an at-large bid in the 2013 Men's Basketball Tournament.

—Austin Osborne

UPCOMING HOME EVENTS

Tuesday, February 26

Men's Tennis vs. Eastern Nazarene College 4 p.m., DuPont Tennis Courts

Wednesday, February 27

Men's Volleyball vs. Springfield College

6 p.m., Rockwell Cage

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